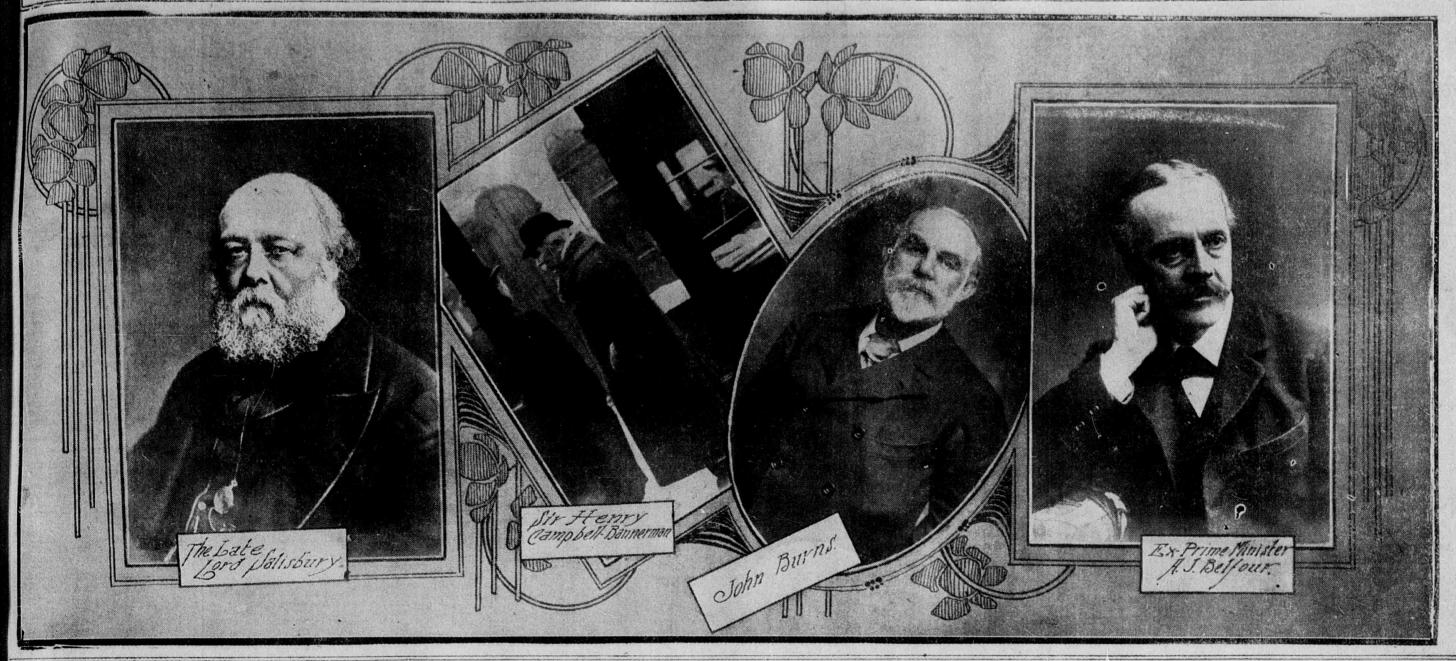
SATURDAY JANUARY 18 1908 SALT LAKE CITY UTAH

FIFTY-SEVENTH YEAR

The Saturday "News" Special Foreign Service.



COLUMBUS WAS NOT SUCH A HERO

Critical Studies of His Life by Prominent American at Paris Embassy.

HIGHEST LITERARY HONOR.

gator, Originating in America, Finds No Support at Rome.

Special Correspondence.

DARIS Jan. 7.—Henry Vignaud, the venerable first secretary of the United States embassy in Paris, is now putting the finishing touches to the second series of his monumental work, "Critical Studis of the Life of Columbus." His first series has just been "crowned" by the academy. This is the highest form of appreciation that France can bestow, and no other recognition elsewhere is held in such high esteem as the men who confer it are all savants of the specialist order. It is a distinction rarely given to foreigners and Mr. Vignaud is the first American to receive it.

During the 32 years that he has resided in Paris Mr. Vignaud has devoted all his leisure time to historical studies and for the most part with reference to Columbus. In hunting up information about him from all sorts of musty records he has displayed infinite pains and patience. He verifies everything. His first series, as is generally known, showed that the real Columbus bore little resemblance to the heoric figure of legend and tradition, who has been enshrined for centuries in the popular imagination, In fact he has proved to be a good deal of a humbug and charlatan. The second series, judging from the conversation I have just had with Mr. Vignaud, will be still more destructive of the halo with which historians, who have devoted little original research to

the subject, have surrounded him.

CONFIRMED PREVARICATOR. "In my first series of critical studies," said Mr. Vignaud, "I left Columbus when he settled in Portugal and married. In the new series I take him from the commencement of his life in Portugal until his departure for the discovery of America. In other words, my second series is a continuation of the first. My critical studies, however, conclude with Columbus's starting on his voyage because after that his life is fully recorded and there are no disputed points about him to be cleared up. Columbus was a to be cleared up. Columbus man of mystery and a most comate liar. He lied continually himself. He lied wherever He lied whenever he though If served his personal interests prove him to be a confirmed flar.

Prove him to be a confirmed flar. "In my coming work I takes up the supposed discussion of his plan of voyage, with the learned men of the University of Salamaca and of Spain generally. Columbus was more of a salior than of a savant, but he wished to give the impression that he was constantly in communication with the stanty in communication with the learned men of his day. He was not. "There is also a curious point about Best 'ee Henriques, mother of his second sol. It is a debated question whether he was married or not. I brove beyone dispute that he was not

married to Beatrice. This is something that will have to be taken into account in considering his fitness for canonization. His eldest son, however, is legitimate, for Columbus was married in Portugal. It is from this son that the Duke de Veragua, who raises bulls for the fights in Spain, and who visited America during the Chicago exposition, is descended.

SEEKING THE TRUTH.

"It is often said that I am too severe upon Columbus. I have sought only to set at the truth about him, and it is not truth about him that proves him to have been a consummate liar. The results of my investigations set forth in my first series of studies are now accepted as incontrovertible by all serious students of the discoverer of America. Filson Young, for instance, in his life of Columbus, accepts my contentions throughout.

"I may mention also that the discovery of the true date of Columbus' birth is mine. Since I made that known a document has been brought to light showing that Columbus was born in 1451 as I meintered. Exercised Services was born in 1451 as I maintained. Formerly all histories of the navigator were based largely upon tradition, but the facts that I have brought to light concerning him show that he was far from being the sort of man who is worthy of

CANNOT BE CANONIZED.

"Will Columbus ever be made a saint. Ir. Vignaud?" I asked. 'Never, I believe," Mr. Vignaud re-ed. "You might look upon me as a kind of lay devil's advocate. You know that the cardinal who is appointed to oppose the canonization of a saint and who raises all the objections he can is called the devil's advocate. The ques-tion of the canonization of Columbus is full of interest for Americans. I be-lieve the Knights of Columbus, a pow-erful organization in the United States pushed the canonization. Americans contributed towards the expense of the Investigation. The movement originated in France, Pius IX favored it; Leo XIII frowned upon it, and Pius X has taken no action in the matter. Recently it was said that the question was being taken up again at the instigation of the Knights of Columbus. I have communicated with Rome on the matter and the reply is that nothing is being done about it.

"Columbus cannot be canonized be cause, according to the canons of the Catholic church, that honor is reserved only for those who were possessed of heroic virtues and by whom, or at least through whom, not less than three miracles have been wrought. Now no miracles are attributed to Columbus virtuous because he was a most a mplished liar and he lived in concu binage with Beatrice Henriquez. The question of his canonization never ever reached the Congregation of Rites which is the first step. The Knights of Columbus will have to wait a long time for their saint."

Mr. Vignaud's studies of Columbus and his estimate of the character of the man are all the more interesting be of America, based upon what he had up to that time read about him, that led him to take up the subject.

TROPHY OF THE FRENCH REVO LUTION.

The French "cap of liberty" shown mast of the frigate Unite by an Eng-



lish captain when that vessel was cap tured in 1796, and it has remained in the possession of his descendants ever Only three of these interesting relics of the French revolution are known to exist.

What English Statesmen Pay for Premiership.

Shattered Health the Price of High Position-Recent Breakdown of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman Calls Attention Afresh to Calls Made on Vitality by His Exalted Office—Job of U. S. President One of Luxurious Ease.

ONDON, Jan. S .- Broken health is the price almost invariably paid for the highest office un. der the crown in Englandthat of prime minister. Truly it may he described as a killing job. Attention has been called once again to the tremendous strain it places on the vitality of its incumbent by the recent breakdown of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman,

which was due solely to overwork There probably is no position, public or private in the world, which makes so many demands on the time and en_ ergy of its holder. Americans are accustomed to the statement that the president of the United States is the hardest worked man in the country, and no doubt he is, but the president of the United States leads a life of luxurious ease compared with that of the prime minister of the British empire. Try to imagine the duties of the president, the leader of the house of representatives and the chairman of the national committee rolled into one, and add to that personal responsibil-Ity for all the machinery of govern-ment, including every department look-ed after in America by a member of the cabinet, who also is independent. Add to these duties the ever present necessity of watching the political temper of parliament, on which the premier's tenure of office depends, and the drudgery of addressing numberless great meetings and traveling from one end of the kingdom to another when parliament is not sitting, and you may have some idea of the burder of toil that falls on the shouders of the Brithat fails of the shoulders of the Mitsh prime minister. The president of the United States is an executive only. Except so far as his personal influence goes he has nothing to do with the legislative branch of the government. His secretaries in charge of the various departments are semi-independent.

ent, and except in matters of broad, general policy he has little concern with the direct management of the various departments of government. MUCH HARRASSED MAN.

ous departments are semi-independ

The prime minister of England is an executive, a legislative and a pol-itical officer. He must have a sear in itical officer. He must have a seat in one or other house of parliament and he must be in his place night after night to lead his party and answer the questions of his opponents, who do not err on the side of consideration for the much-harrassed man whom they are trying their hardest to oust from his high position. It must be remembered too that the house of commons, in which the prosent prime minister sits, does not, like the house of representatives, meet in the morning and adjourn at a reasonable hour. It meets in the afternoon, seldom adjourns before midnight and often sits It meets in the afternoon, seldom adjourns before midnight and often sits all night. All this time the premier has to be in his place, although he may have been hard at work on the administrative features of his routine since early morning. He may have to make a dozen speeches in a night, many of them imprompts, and he must always be alert and have all his wits about him, for an apparently slight slip may mean the downfall of his government and the defeat of the measures and policies for which he stands.

This is the legislative side of his This is the legislative side of his work. On the administrative side he must preside, sometimes daily for a week or more, and usually at least once a week at cabinet councils at which the party program of legislation, the party poley on all great questions, and many small ones, appointments to office and a host of other details are discussed. He must act as peacemaker among a group of ambitious men struggling to secure each for himself whattever credit is to be got for the govern-ment's accomplishments and to place on some one else's shoulders the re-

sponsibility for failure. He must labor to keep his cabinet harmonious, although there are often grave differences of policy and principle among its mem-bers, and to see that it presents a united front to the country.

MUST ATTEND KING.

In addition to all this he may be summoned at any moment to attend the king, and that is a summons that must not be disobeyed. He has to attend the king's privy councils and he must be in evidence when the king entertains foreign royalities or other guests of roc fitted importance, and perhaps these functions are the most tiring of all to a man who has passed middle age, as the British premier almost invariably has. One must do a good deal of standing in the presence of royalty and a good deal of bowing, and they are both physically tiring. The restraint and etiquette are mentally wearing, especially to a man who, like Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, has not bee brought up in the atmosphere of th

But it must also be remembered that England is an intensely democratic country, notwithstanding all the pomp and circumstance which surround its monarch and its government. The prime minister must be almost as accessible as the president of the United States. Day after day he must receive deputations from all sorts of public and commercial bodies interested in legis lation or administrative policy, and h literally dare not refuse to see them be seen, then, that the 24 hour; are all too short for the prime minis ter's work.

NO REST ON HOLIDAYS.

His holidays even are strenuous. When parliament adjourns the round of speech-making begins. The prime minister must make at least one great speech to his own constituents. He must attend banquet after banquet, and at each one he is expected to say of thing that is addressed not only those within the sound of his voice but to the whole country, and he must write letters and send messages to doz ens of meetings that it is physically impossible for him to attend.

Perhaps this very inadequate recitar of the principal of his duties will give some idea of the enormous strain to which the prime minister is subjected. On the day on which Sir Henry collapsed he hurried up from Windsor Castle where he had been in attendance on the king and his guest, the German emper-or, to receive a deputation of brewers and others interested in the new liquo legislation which is promised for the next session of parliament. From his next session of parliament. From his official residence at No. 10 Downing street, where he received the deputation, he drove to the Guildhall, in the old city of London, and was present at the city corporation's lunch in honor of the kalser, and from the Guildhall he drove straight to the railway station and traveled more than 200 miles into Wales where he was to deliver into Wales, where he was to deliver an important political speech that night. Of course, he was the guest night. Of course, he was the guest of honor at a great banquet immediately after his arrival, and after the banquet he delivered his speech. The breakdown came in the night a short time after he had retired to bed, and the result is that he has been compelled to abandon all business and take a long rest on the Riviera.

LAST OF LONG LINE.

Sir Henry is the last of a long lin of premiers who have sacrificed their health for the public service. His immediate predecessor, Mr. Balfour, was ill more than once during his term of office, and immediately after his leaving it he was compelled to take a long rest cure. In sortic of that he never has It he was compelled to take a long rest cure. In spite of that he never has been a well man since he left the premiership, and he is just recovering from a recent breakdown caused by the strain of recess speaking. Mr. Balfour, too, is a younger man than Sir Henry, who is 71, and he has the additional advantage of being a devotee of the outdoor life. Every minute that he can match from the hurly-burly of polioutdoor life. Every minute that he can match from the hurly-burly of poli-

tics is devoted to golf, and he is classed as one of the best amateur golfers in the kingdom.

His uncle, Lord Salisbury, who preceded him in the premiership, was a man of extraordinary constitution, but even he confessed that the only way in which he kept himself fit for his duties was by having a hobby. His hobby was chemistry, and after a wearing night in parliament he would often devote a few hours in his laboratory to working out some problem, which gave him mental relief at least from the cares of state. Even Lord Salisbury, however, did not last long after his retirement from public life, and his life was shortened many years un-doubtedly by the enormous labors of

GLADSTONE A WORKER.

Probably one of the most remarkable workers who ever held this great of fice was Mr. Gladstone. In appearance he was almost frail, and it is well known that his health never was robust. It also is common knowledge that he owed his power to continual working as he did to the devoted care of his wife, who, indeed, combined the cares and duties of a wife, a nurse and a mother. There never was a late sitting at the house which did not find Mrs. Gladstone waiting in her carriage in the Palace yard for her husband to join her, and her first care was to wrap a muffler round his was to wrap a muffler round throat and a shawl around his show ers. She watched his physical condi-tion with the keenness of a physician and at the slightest sign of overstrain she insisted on carrying him off into the country, where he was wont to re-cuperate with the aid of his favor cuperate with the aid of his favor-ite exercise of cutting down trees.

Another prime minister who suffered from the strain of the office was Lord Palmerston, whose prodigious energy is the subject of special remark by all his contemporary biographers. Profes-sor Payne in a volume of services. his contemporary biographers. Professor Payne, in a volume of reminiscences, tells of leaving the house with Palmerston at 1 o'clock one morning and walking up Parliament street with him. At the door of the foreign office Palmerston left him, remarking that he had several important dispatches to revise before he could go to bed. It is said that Palmerston made it a practise to work 19 hours a day at the foreign office in addition to attending to his legislative duties. He had a desk constructed at the foreign office in addition to attending to his legislative duties. had a desk constructed at the for-eign office at which he used to stand because he said, if he fell asleep, the fall would wake him.

KEPT IN CONDITION.

Another of his biographers tells going to call on him one night. As t caller approached the house he sa Palmerston come out bareheaded and look cautiously around. Apparently satisfied that no one was in sight he proceeded to climb over the high rail-ings in front of the house and then climb back again. This done, he re-entered the house. In reply to his caller's inquiries he said that this was his way of ascertaining if he was keep-ing in proper physical condition or not. If overwork was telling on him too ich he would be unable to climb the

William Pitt, the first Earl of Chatham, was perhaps the only case of a premier who actually was killed by his work when in harness. He was suffering from a serious breakdown when a parliamentary crists arose, and against the advice and entreaties of his physicians he insisted on going to the house. When there he was seized with the attack which terminated in his death. It is interesting to Americans to note that the business he was angaged in when he collapsed was the moving of an address to the king praying him to withdraw his troops from America and make peace with the re-America and make peace with the re-

The younger Pitt also was a victim of the burden of the premiership, and history records several instances of his breakdown

George Canning actually became ill in the house when he was premier, and was laid aride for months by a serious

ties of his office Peel said that if his nose did not bleed every night in the house he would collapse

SEEMS TO BE NO REMEDY.

It is hard to say what the remedy for this state of affairs is. In fact, there seems to be none under the English political system, and the tendency is for the premiership to become still harder with the growth of democracy. In the old days the premier at least was spared the endless processions of deputations from labor unions, friendly societies, clubs of all kinds and all sorts of business associations which the premier of today has to receive. To refuse to see one of them might cost his party thousands of votes, or even mean the loss of a seat in parliament. The attendance on royalty is a duty of state which cannot well be dispensed with, although the present king, with his usual good sense, has recognized the strain on the premier and has cut it down to a minimum. The parliamentary duties are regarded as indispensable, for the British people demand that the responsible head of their government shall be present in parliament that the responsible head of their gov-ernment shall be present in parliament to answer for all his actions to the representatives of the people, and his position as a member of parliament as well as the head of the government entails a certain amount of campaigning

and public speaking.

The conclusion, impotent as it may seem, seems to be that England must ontinue to sacrifice her ablest men on the altar of the premiership.

JOHN S. STEELE.

ANTI-SEMITIC AGITATOR

A DANGEROUS LUNATIC.

Special Correspondence. D ERLIN, Jan. 8.—At last it seems

probable that a termination has been put to the pernicious activity of Count Walter Puckler, the notorious anti-Semitic agitator. He will no longer be allowed to indulge publicly in his favorite pastime-Jew baiting. He has been-adjudged a dangerous lunatic and the other afternoon was arrested at a fashionable ho-tel here and conveyed under police es-

cort to Dalldor' asylum,
But it is not his fulminations against
the Jews which have led to his suppression. It is for something which under German law is regarded as a far more heinous offense. He has been guilty of lese majeste. He has abused the sacred person of the kalser. And no man—sane or maine—can be allowed to do that with impunity. Count Puckler has for many years

been the most implacable for of the Sémitic race in Germany. He has delivered hundreds of speeches against them and written scores of pamphlets denouncing them. He organized a bund of armed retainers on his own estate to barry and persecute them. He regarded them as a people entirely beyond the pale of human mercy. He has frequently declared that any one who murdered a Jew conferred a pubic benefit and performed an act which would be applauded in heaven. His Germany that species of massacro-known in Russia as "pogroms." Be-cause of his rank, his wealth and oratorical gifts of no mean order, he did succeed in stirring up much ill-feeling against the Jews among certain class es, and inciting many acts of violence against them. He has been frequently prosecuted

He has been frequently prosecuted, several times fined, and has been imprisoned more than once for his incendiary harangues. More recently he has been acquitted on the ground that he was "non compos ments." Secure in the immunity from punishment this conforred upon him he continued his agitation. Thereafter, as long as he confined himself to advocating the murder of the Jews, the authorities took no further steps against him. took no further steps against him, treating him as a harmless lunatic. But when he began to attack the kalsor, in their estimation he became a dangerous lunatic. It was because of the kalser's partiality for Herr Ballin, and other Hebralc captains of industry in the fatherland, that he incurred Count Puckler's hostility. The count wrote two or three abusive pamphiets assatting him. In the asy-tum is which he is confined, he will be allowed to write anything he pleas-es, but it won't be printed.

GRAFT RAMPANT IN STAID ENGLAND

Local Governments of Johnny Bull Said to Be Honeycombed With It.

RECENT INVESTIGATIONS.

Disclose a State of Affairs Calculated To Make Tammany Turn Green With Envy.

Special Correspondence.

ONDON, Jan. 9 .- Englishmen who enjoyed talking about the corruption and dishonesty in Amer-Ican municipal life are singing very small just now. Even the most patriotic Briton is apt to feel that for him to abuse America on this score is dangerously like the pot calling tha

It has always been the boast of Englishmen that all departments of their government were free from corruption and to a great extent this has been the case. Lately, however, there has been a rude awakening. Investigation after investigation into the workings of various boards of guardians and other local government authorities have disclosed a state of affairs which would put to shame the greatest grafters that Tammany hall or the Philadelphia ring ever produced. It is true that the amounts of money involved in the English disclosures were smaller than those that we are accustomed to hear about from America, but the only reason that this was so was that the amounts that could be stolen were smaller. Work-ing on the percentage hasts the Brit-ish grafter has far eclipsed his Ameri-

GRAFT IN LONDON.

London has been going through a series of investigations of boards of guardians for the last year or more. So far half a dozen of the forty or more boards in the London district have been investigated by local government board officials, and a startling state of corruption has been disclosed in each. At least half a dozen more boards have been designated for investigation, and it is said that practically every board of guardians in the United kingdom one contractor and five guardians have been sent to jail and there will be many other presecutions.

JOHN BURNS RESPONSIBLE.

The one man to whom the credit for all this house-cleaning is due is John Burns, the ex-labor leader and Socialist who is now a member of the cabinet as president of the local government board. This board has jurisdiction over the work of all the local elected bodies and is expected to watch them and exercise a cheek on their exelected bodies and is expected to watch them and exercise a check on their expenditures. Until the advent of John Burns, however, it was chiefly conspicuous for its somnolence. Mr. Burns has had a long experience in local government and the first thing he did was to attack the system that has grown up. He declares that he does not tatend to stop until he has eliminated the last vestige of graft from English public life.

The board of guardians is an institution peculiarly English. It is a purely local elected body and has jurisdiction solely over the administration of the paor law. It is independent of every other local authority and until recently

or law. It is independent of every or local authority and until recently in practise entirely independent a of the local government board. It the spending of a great deal of

(Continued on page fourteen.)